

We must provide our teens with opportunity and hope, with firm yet loving moral guidance and discipline, and—most important—with clear, consistent examples of personal responsibility and virtue.

No child is destined to become a “bad teen.” Through loving, responsible parenting and through the support of schools, churches, and communities that set high standards of character and conduct for people of all ages, we can help every young American to recognize and attain his or her fullest potential. On this occasion, let us resolve to do exactly that.

The Congress, by House Joint Resolution 409, has designated January 16, 1993, as “National Good Teen Day” and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim January 16, 1993, as National Good Teen Day. I invite all Americans to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities in honor of America’s teenaged citizens.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-third day of December, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:31 p.m., January 4, 1993]

Note: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on January 4, and it was published in the Federal Register on January 6.

Proclamation 6521—National Sanctity of Human Life Day, 1993

January 4, 1993

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Americans have demonstrated their commitment to the belief “that all men are cre-

ated equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” This tradition of generosity and reverence for human life stands in marked contrast with the prevalence of abortion in America today—some 1.5 million children lost each year; more than 4,000 each day. This is shocking evidence of just how far we have strayed from our Nation’s most cherished values and beliefs. Thus we pause on this National Sanctity of Human Life Day to call attention to the tragedy of abortion and to recognize the many individuals who are working to restore respect for human life in our Nation.

Advances in science and technology have offered us tremendous new insight on life in the womb: parents can now hear their unborn child’s heartbeat as early as 8 weeks of age; physicians can monitor the baby’s development using high-resolution sonography; and they may even diagnose and treat abnormalities before birth. How terribly ironic it is that, at one hospital or clinic, an unborn child may be carefully treated as a patient, while at another facility—perhaps just a few blocks away—another innocent child may become a victim of abortion.

Recognizing the tragedy of abortion and the feelings of desperation that lead some women to make such a painful, devastating choice, concerned individuals throughout the United States are working to help women choose life for their unborn children. On this occasion we recognize the many generous Americans who—with nothing to gain for themselves—reach out to women in need through crisis pregnancy centers, residential facilities, mentoring programs, and a host of other support services. We also recognize the many social services professionals, attorneys, and counselors who assist in promoting the adoption option, and we salute each of the courageous women who make this unselfish choice for their children. Such works of generosity and compassion are saving lives and, yes, slowly but surely turning hearts—one woman, one couple, one community at a time.

The struggle to overcome abortion in the United States—to educate individuals about life in the womb, to restore reverence for

the miracle of creation, and to expand alternatives for women in need—is far from ended. While the struggle may be a long and difficult one, many Americans know that it is a cause from which we cannot retreat. And because it is a cause that appeals directly to the conscience of the Nation—a Nation that has, time and again, demonstrated its capacity to rediscover its highest ideals, ideals rooted in our belief in the God-given rights and dignity of every human being—it is a cause that cannot fail.

Now, Therefore, I, George Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Sunday, January 17, 1993, as National Sanctity of Human Life Day. I call on all Americans to reflect on the sanctity of human life in all its stages and to gather in homes and places of worship to give thanks for the gift of life and to reaffirm our commitment to respect the life and dignity of every human being.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fourth day of January, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventeenth.

George Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:32 p.m., January 4, 1993]

Note: This proclamation was published in the Federal Register on January 6.

Recess Appointment of Gregory Stewart Walden as a Member of the Interstate Commerce Commission

January 4, 1993

The President today announced the recess appointment of Gregory Stewart Walden, of California, to be a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Mr. Walden would succeed Edward Martin Emmett.

Since 1990 Mr. Walden has served as an Associate Counsel to the President at the White House. Prior to this, he was Chief Counsel of the Federal Aviation Administration at the Department of Transportation,

1988–90. Mr. Walden has served in various capacities at the Department of Justice including: Associate Deputy Attorney General, 1987–88; Deputy Associate Attorney General, 1986–87; Special Assistant to the Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Division.

Mr. Walden graduated from Washington and Lee University (B.A., 1977) and the University of San Diego (J.D., 1980). He currently resides in Alexandria, VA.

Remarks at the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York

January 5, 1993

Thank you all very much. Good luck. Please be seated. Thank you, General Graves, for that very kind introduction. Barbara and I are just delighted to be here and honored that we could be joined by our able Secretary of the Army, Mike Stone; of course, the man well-known here that heads our Army, General Sullivan, General Gordon Sullivan; and Gracie Graves, General Robert Foley, General Galloway; Shawn Daniel, well-known to everybody here, been our host, in a sense; and a West Point alum who has been at my side for 4 years, over here somewhere, General Scowcroft, graduate of this great institution who served his country with such distinction. May I salute the members of the Board of Visitors. I see another I have to single out, General Galvin, who served his country with such honor. And, of course, save the best for last, the Corps of Cadets, thank you for that welcome.

Let me begin with the hard part: It is difficult for a Navy person to come up to West Point after that game a month ago. Go ahead, rub it in. *[Laughter]* But I watched it. Amazing things can happen in sports. Look at the Oilers, my other team that took it on the chin the other day. *[Laughter]* But I guess the moral of all of this is that losing is never easy. Trust me, I know something about that. *[Laughter]* But if you have to lose, that's the way to do it. Fight with all you have. Give